

WE CLAIM:

- 424/61
1. A nail coating composition comprising, in a cosmetically acceptable medium, microspheres and at least one film-forming substance.
 2. A nail coating composition according to claim 1, wherein said microspheres are present in an amount of from about 0.05% to about 15% by weight of the total composition.
 3. A nail coating composition according to claim 2, wherein said microspheres are present in an amount of from about 0.1% to about 6% by weight of the total composition.
 4. A nail coating composition according to claim 1, wherein said microspheres have an average diameter from about 1 micron to about 200 microns.
 5. A nail coating composition according to claim 1, wherein said microspheres have a particle size distribution of 90% below 150 microns.
 6. A nail coating composition according to claim 1, wherein said microspheres are chosen from hollow microspheres and solid microspheres.
 7. A nail coating composition according to claim 1, wherein said microspheres are chosen from ceramic microspheres, glass microspheres, polymeric microspheres, and metal microspheres. *long*
 8. A nail coating composition according to claim 1, wherein said at least one film-forming substance is chosen from cellulose acetate, cellulose acetate butyrate, ethyl cellulose, vinyl polymers, nitrocellulose, nitrocellulose derivatives, acrylics, and urethanes. *long*
 9. A nail coating composition according to claim 1, wherein said at least one film-forming substance is present in an amount of from about 5% to about 20%, relative to the total weight of the composition.
 10. A nail coating composition according to claim 1, said composition further comprising at least one plasticizer.
 11. A nail coating composition according to claim 1, said composition further comprising at least one additional film-forming substance.
 12. A nail coating composition according to claim 1, said composition further comprising at least one coloring agent.

13. A nail coating composition according to claim 1, said composition further comprising at least one thixotropic agent.

14. A nail coating composition according to claim 1, said composition further comprising at least one fast drying promoting agent.

15. A method for enhancing the gloss of a nail coating composition, said method comprising applying to a nail surface a base coat composition comprising microspheres having an average diameter ranging from about 1 to about 12 microns, with a median diameter of less than 10 microns, and at least one film-forming substance, and then applying a nail enamel top coat.

16. A method according to claim 15, wherein said nail enamel top coat comprises a coloring agent.

17. A method for filling ridges in or smoothing out a nail surface, said method comprising applying to said nail surface a nail coating composition comprising microspheres having an average diameter ranging from about 1 to about 40 microns, with a median diameter ranging from 20 to 35 microns, and at least one film-forming substance.

18. A method for providing texture or a matte finish to a nail surface, said method comprising applying to said nail surface a nail coating composition comprising microspheres having an average diameter ranging from about 50 to about 150 microns, with a median diameter of greater than 60 microns, and at least one film-forming substance.

19. A method for protecting a nail surface, said method comprising applying to said nail surface a nail coating composition which comprises, in a cosmetically acceptable medium, microspheres and at least one film-forming substance

20. A nail coating composition for enhancing the gloss of a nail enamel top coat, wherein said composition contains microspheres of average diameter ranging from about 1 to about 12 microns, with a median diameter of less than 10 microns, and at least one film-forming substance.

21. A nail coating composition for filling ridges in or smoothing out a nail surface, wherein said composition contains microspheres of average diameter ranging

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22. A nail coating composition for providing texture or a matte finish to a nail surface, wherein the composition contains microspheres of average diameter ranging from about 50 to about 150 microns, with a median diameter of greater than 60 microns, and at least one film-forming substance.

24. A nail coating composition according to claim 23, wherein said at least one film-forming substance is present in an amount of about 3% to about 50% relative to the total weight of the composition.

[illegible]